GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:446
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2002
GROWTH RATE OF BASIC-TELEPHONE SERVICE AND CELLULAR SERVICES
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the network of basic-telephone services and cellular services has expanded in the country during the last few years;

(b) if so, the annual growth rate registered by both the above said sectors during each of the year 1999, 2000 and 2001 respectively;

(c) the number of connections under both the sectors functional in the country at the end of February, 2002; and

(d) the total number of connections under basic telephone services in rural areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRA MAHAJAN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 446 FOR 24TH APRIL, 2002 REGARDING GROWTH RATE OF BASIC-TELEPHONE SERVICE AND CELLULAR SERVICES.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The annual growth rate registered by both the above said sectors during the year 1999, 2000 and 2001 are as follows:

BASIC PHONE			CELLULAR PHONE		
Sl. No.	Year	Growth Rate	Sl. No.	Year	Growth Rate
1.	1998-1999	21.40%	1.	1998-1999	35.96%
2.	1999-2000	23.32%	2.	1999-2000	57.08%
3.	2000-2001	22.73%	3.	2000-2001	89.84%

(c) The number of telephone connections in both the sectors in the country at the end of February, 2002 are as follows:-

BASIC TELEPHONE SERVICES	CELLULAR SERVICES
3,67,22,385	60,48,225

(d) Total number of connections under basic telephone services in rural areas is 82,19,544 at the end of February, 2002.